



# National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office Annual Report

# 2014

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Director, National Maritime Intelligence-Integration  
Office

*Information Cut-off Date:  
31 December 2014*

*Building Community to Protect the Maritime Domain*

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## Foreword

Serving as the Director of the National Maritime Intelligence-Integration Office (NMIO) throughout 2014 has been truly rewarding, as we made great strides in promoting global solutions to maritime security challenges. Most notably from an organizational perspective, NMIO welcomed Mr. A. Lyston Lea, II as the new Principal Advisor and Mr. Todd Boone as Department Head for Intelligence Integration. We are indeed most fortunate to add their talents and skills to an agile team of experts.

NMIO achieved success across a broad range of maritime intelligence integration and information sharing challenges. We continued to mature our ex-officio National Intelligence Manager role by promulgating the first ever Intelligence Integration Plan for Maritime Issues (IIPM). The IIPM communicates the top priorities for the Intelligence Community (IC) to collaboratively develop and implement mitigation strategies for difficult intelligence challenges. To further synchronize IIPM initiatives, NMIO stood up a Maritime Intelligence Strategy Board comprised of principal advisors from across the IC and Federal agencies, quickly launching a Hard Target Campaign Strategy to further anticipatory intelligence goals. NMIO also reached out beyond government to grow the Global Maritime Community of Interest by co-hosting highly successful forums such as the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian-U.S. Maritime Stakeholders Conference and the Global Maritime Forum Science & Technology Workshop. Each resulted in greater mission partnership and unity of effort.

As reflected in this report, 2014 was a year of tremendous accomplishment which provided greater impetus and focus to NMIO's mission. We step into 2015 eager to build upon our recent successes to overcome the maritime security challenges that lay ahead. Therefore, I am most pleased to present this review of NMIO's accomplishments in 2014.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "E.L. Train".

E.L. TRAIN  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Director, NMIO

## Executive Summary of Significant Accomplishments

- **Integrated Intelligence Plan for Maritime Issues (IIPM).**  
In May 2014, the Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Intelligence Integration approved NMIO's first IIPM for implementation. Analogous to a Unifying Intelligence Strategy, the IIPM enables the maritime community to develop initiatives that address key collection and analysis gaps regarding the most difficult challenges requiring broad Intelligence Community (IC) participation to resolve.
- **Maritime Intelligence Strategy Board (MISB).**  
Strategy Boards, comprised of representatives from community stakeholders, are used by National Intelligence Managers (NIM) to facilitate unifying actions throughout the IC and Federal interagency. In July of 2014, Director, NMIO chaired the first MISB, which also kicked off the IIPM Hard Target strategy campaigns.
- **IIPM Hard Target Strategy.**  
NMIO's IIPM Hard Target Strategy was initiated in October 2014 and includes campaigns addressing non-emitting vessels, small vessels, illicit people, illicit cargo, illicit networks and facilitators, security in foreign ports, and science and technology (S&T) enablers.
- **Maritime Domain Awareness Executive Steering Committee (MDA ESC) Closure of MDA Challenge #6.**  
In March 2014, the MDA ESC began focusing efforts on closure of MDA Challenge #6 – National MDA Strategy Development, notifying the National Security Council (NSC) of this accomplishment in November 2014.
- **Draft National MDA Architecture Plan (NMDAAP).**  
NMIO promoted data and architecture information sharing standards in support of the National MDA Plan and its implementing objective of "Improve Domain Awareness through enterprise-level access to data." As part of this objective, the MDA ESC also worked to advance the draft NMDAAP.
- **Arctic Support.**  
In support of the implementation of the National Strategy for the Arctic Region (NSAR), NMIO partnered with the NIM for the Western Hemisphere to develop and execute an Arctic table top exercise, bringing together analysts from across the IC and Federal interagency to examine key challenges in this increasingly important region.



- **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canada and U.S. (CANUS) Maritime Stakeholders Conference (MSC).**  
 NMIO co-hosted the annual CANUS MSC with the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and Canada's Interdepartmental Marine Security Working Group (IMSWG) in June 2014. The event focused on strengthening cross-border interagency cooperation regarding persistent barriers to routine, habitual maritime information sharing.
- **Global Maritime Forum (GMF) Science and Technology (S&T) Workshop.**  
 NMIO co-hosted a GMF workshop with the Italian Navy and the Italian Joint Chiefs' Department of Information and Security in May 2014. Leading international experts facilitated panel discussions on maritime data acquisition and sharing technologies, and international opportunities to enhance MDA.
- **International Information Sharing Exercise.**  
 NMIO led development and execution of an international partners Information Sharing Exercise that leveraged the Single Integrated Lookout (SILO) List/SeaPort to determine what can be shared and is discoverable among participating nations. Prior to the exercise, NMIO worked closely with Liaison Officers to ensure familiarity with exercise parameters and to provide SILO/SeaPort navigation refresher training.
- **Maritime Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative (MSI).**  
 This two-year initiative concluded in November 2014 with the "Maritime Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative (MSI) Final Findings and Recommendations Report" and transition of the initiative to USCG's Facilities and Compliance Office. Many of the final report's recommendations were endorsed in a resolution put forward by a National Maritime Security Advisory Committee working group as a call to action for the USCG to address the recommendations contained within.
- **Maritime Analyst Training Course (MATC).**  
 NMIO held final MATC iterations in both Massachusetts and Florida. This initiative resulted in the expansion of local authority and state fusion center analyst awareness and knowledge base of the maritime industry and port operations to better identify illicit activity. In December 2014, DHS' Partner Engagement Office requested to work with NMIO in 2015 to adapt MATC for state fusion center analyst computer aided training.

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## 2014 In Review

### FORA

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Canada–U.S. Maritime Stakeholders Conference (CANUS MSC)**

In June 2014, NMIO hosted the 5th Annual CANUS MSC at the National Maritime Intelligence Center (NMIC) Facility in Suitland, Maryland. Co-sponsored by NMIO, the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), and Canada's Interdepartmental Marine Security Working Group (IMSWG), the event focused on strengthening cross-border interagency cooperation and comprehensively addressed bi-national Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) information sharing in the Arctic, Great Lakes, and Open Ocean, as well as Counter-Intelligence and Cyber domain issues. It successfully addressed four key objectives:

- a. Maintain established battle rhythm of consistent, habitual interaction between CANUS maritime stakeholders.
- b. Tease out persistent barriers to routine/habitual bi-lateral maritime information sharing.
- c. Develop potential bi-lateral action items for executive decisions on future engagement.
- d. Promote and address future venues and format of FVEY maritime information sharing.

#### **Canada-U.S. Maritime Executive Roundtable (MERT)**

The CANUS MERT was held on 20 November 2014 at NORAD/U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) at Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs, CO. The bi-national interagency forum consists of 20 whole of government<sup>1</sup> Canadian and U.S. Senior Executives and Flag Officers. It is co-sponsored by NMIO, NORAD, and IMSWG to address maritime security, MDA, and maritime intelligence integration challenges by deciding on outcomes and recommendations of the previous CANUS MSC. The 2014 MERT focused on the following:

*CANUS MDA Challenge Map:* This roadmap provides a mutual and effective way to guide efforts to collectively address MDA challenges. In 2014, Canada and the U.S. both individually prioritized the functional areas and agreed that all future initiatives would be aligned with them.

*North American Vessels of Interest (VOI) Lexicon:* NMIO will accept stewardship of the U.S. VOI Lexicon once the Department of Defense (DoD) accepts it as its standard. NMIO will then promote the lexicon through the National Security Council (NSC) Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) process for U.S. Federal interagency acceptance and will also engage the FVEY community for commonality.

*MDA Reference Guide:* As an outcome of the CANUS MSC and MERT process, U.S. Fleet Forces Command developed an MDA Reference Guide in 2011-2012 to facilitate information sharing across the U.S. interagency and then with Canada. The MERT requested that NMIO survey CANUS stakeholders to determine frequency of use and the value of the MDA Reference Guide's contents. NMIO will report the results of the survey at the 2015 CANUS MSC with a recommended way ahead.

#### **MDA Executive Steering Committee (ESC)**

Upon publication of the National Maritime Domain Awareness Plan (NMDAP) by the White House in December 2013, the MDA ESC became the national body to oversee and promote

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<sup>1</sup> Includes Federal government and IC agencies and organizations.



implementation of the Plan's objectives. This responsibility has become the primary focus of the MDA ESC and the National Maritime Interagency Advisory Group (NIAG).

#### MDA ESC Accomplishments:

- In January 2014, D/NMIO, as Chair, MDA ESC, signed the first NIAG charter to codify its work under the oversight of the MDA ESC, based on the authority of Presidential Policy Directive-18, Maritime Security (PPD-18) and the NMDAP.
- In March 2014, the MDA ESC agreed to promote closure of MDA Challenge #6 – National MDA Strategy Development, notifying the NSC of closure in November 2014.
- From July-December 2014, the MDA ESC worked to advance the draft National MDA Architecture Plan (NMDAAP) (see National MDA Architecture Initiatives, page 4).
- In July 2014, the MDA ESC moved ahead with a study to evaluate the viability and interoperability of the Department of Homeland Security (S&T) Coastal Surveillance System Enterprise and DoD's Maritime Information Sharing Enterprise to serve as the Information Sharing Infrastructure defined in the draft NMDAAP. This action progressed mitigation of MDA Challenge #17 – Enterprise Alignment of the National MDA Effort.
- In October 2014, the MDA ESC concurred with the findings of a NMIO-sponsored study it commissioned in September 2013, *Alerts, Warnings, and Notifications to Mariners* (AWN). Forwarding it to the NSC's Maritime Security Interagency Policy Committee (MSIPC) in December 2014, the MDA ESC recommended the establishment of an interagency working group to review the study and determine the best ways to implement its recommendations to unify and improve the Federal interagency process to provide AWN to U.S. mariners and the U.S. maritime industry.

#### **Maritime Intelligence Strategy Board (MISB)**

NMIO hosted the inaugural MISB in July 2014, with participation from 21 Federal interagency and IC organizations. The MISB seeks to unify the maritime community to resolve hard collection and analysis challenges, and address future strategic warning issues through strategies such as the Intelligence Integration Plan for Maritime Issues (IIPM), coordinating programs of analysis, and facilitating hard target campaigns, tabletop exercises (TTX), and other initiatives.

#### **Hard Target Strategy**

Hard targets are difficult and complex collection, analysis, or data exploitation challenges requiring a broad, integrated community response. NMIO's Hard Target Strategy therefore coordinates whole of government initiatives aimed at solving high priority target issues to facilitate decision advantage. As part of this strategy, NMIO developed 7 Intelligence Integration Campaigns which are, in turn, part of 4 focus areas ("pillars"): vessels; cargo and people; facilitators and networks; and cross-campaign enablers (such as S&T breakthroughs). Senior leader Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from across the IC will serve as strategy co-leads, coordinating and managing MISB approved campaigns with a focus on integration and innovation. Campaign co-leads, comprised of maritime community SMEs, will develop detailed campaign plans with deliverables, milestones, and a proposed timeline for execution. They will identify required community participation, execute the campaign, and report progress to the MISB Chair (D/NMIO).

#### **Maritime Table Top Exercises (TTX)**

In support of the implementation of the National Strategy for the Arctic Region (NSAR), NMIO partnered with the National Intelligence Manager for the Western Hemisphere (NIM-WH) to



develop and execute an Arctic TTX. The event was held on 23-24 October 2014 at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland, and brought together analysts from across the IC to examine key challenges in this increasingly important region.

### **National Maritime Interagency Advisory Group (NIAG)**

Under the authority of the NMDAP, D/NMIO, as MDA ESC Chair, signed the inaugural NIAG Charter in January 2014 which refined the body's scope and direction. The NIAG meets monthly to address focused maritime security topics. Approximately 30 different Federal agencies and all FVEY partners are represented either in person or through video-teleconferencing, routinely totaling between 30-40 participants. In accordance with NMDAP implementation objectives, the NIAG is focusing on: 1) closing or mitigating National MDA Challenges; 2) developing enterprise-level access to maritime data; and 3) conducting outreach in support of NMDAP objectives and goals. Accomplishments during 2014 include:

- Closure of National MDA Challenge #6 – National MDA Strategy Development.
- Assessment of the AWN process.
- First-ever whole of government meeting with representatives from Arctic Council nations to discuss maritime security and MDA issues.
- First-ever whole of nation<sup>2</sup> meeting with representatives from state fusion centers to discuss maritime security and MDA issues.

### **NMIO International Partners Roundtable (IPR)**

The IPR continued to provide an opportunity to engage key foreign partners. NMIO hosted the second iteration in July 2014, with full FVEY participation, both in person and by NMIO counterpart organizations in-country via video-teleconferencing. On-site participation also included representatives from Denmark, Finland and Italy. Attendees presented briefs on their whole of government MDA efforts, with Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom presenting updates on related inter-governmental and organizational realignments. The forum resulted in the exchange of lessons learned by each country on maritime information sharing and fostered increased dialogue amongst participants.

### **Global Maritime Forum (GMF) Venice, Italy**

The GMF is a vital mission element for international outreach to identify emerging technologies which could potentially threaten or conversely help improve maritime security. In May 2014, NMIO, the Italian Navy, and the Italian Joint Chiefs' Department of Information and Security co-hosted a GMF S&T workshop at the Italian Naval Command and Staff College in Venice, Italy. The event focused on maritime data acquisition and sharing technologies, and international opportunities to enhance MDA. Leading international experts facilitated panel discussions designed to provide participants with an opportunity to explore their interests in: 1) emerging space-based marine observation phenomenology; 2) emerging terrestrial maritime ground-truth data; 3) social networks and ground-truth data; 4) emerging ocean-deployed sensing, detecting, characterizing, and reporting capabilities; 5) data analytics such as analyst tools, automated correlation, and collection tasking; and 6) overcoming proprietary, political, strategic, legal, language, and interagency barriers to information sharing. In addition to the sharing of technical information, key outcomes of the workshop included a set of actionable recommendations for participants to smartly plan efforts to enhance global MDA.

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<sup>2</sup> External to the Federal government and IC.

## **NEW PROCESSES**

### **Intelligence Integration Plan for Maritime Issues (IIPM)**

In May 2014, the Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Intelligence Integration approved NMIO's first IIPM for implementation. Analogous to a Unifying Intelligence Strategy, the IIPM enables the maritime community to develop initiatives that address key collection and analysis gaps regarding the most difficult challenges requiring broad IC participation to resolve.

### **Collection Initiatives (ITINs)**

From October 2012 through September 2014, NMIO coordinated the refinement of Office of the Director of National Intelligence's (ODNI) Intelligence Topic Information Needs (ITINs) with the IC and Federal interagency. The result was better representation of maritime and air domain equities through updates to at least 70 different topics.

### **Arctic Geospatial Surveillance Cooperation**

To better detect and track vessels in the Arctic, NMIO continued to lead an initiative to collaborate with Canada, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), the Naval Research Laboratory, and NORAD/USNORTHCOM to leverage information from Canadian commercial radar satellites and commercial Automated Information System (AIS) satellites, and add this data to other U.S. information sources. This effort resulted in the proposal of technical improvements to both U.S. and Canadian systems. A CANUS working group will meet in 2015 to plan a way forward to test these improvements to ensure mutual enhancement of MDA from Space capabilities.

### **Vessels of Interest (VOI) Analytic Test**

In March 2014, NMIO participated in a forum bringing together Federal interagency, IC, and Canadian maritime stakeholders to discuss the business rules and data necessary to share information on VOIs. This action supported efforts to develop the NMDAAP to promote an information sharing environment providing enterprise-level access to maritime data, and eventually a national functional standard for sharing maritime vessel information.

### **National MDA Architecture Initiatives**

Throughout 2014, NMIO promoted data and architecture information sharing standards in support of the NMDAP and its implementing objective of "Improve Domain Awareness through enterprise-level access to data." As part of this objective the MDA ESC has also been developing the draft NMDAAP. Between July and October 2014, NMIO received final comments and endorsement of the draft from the Chief Information Officers (CIO) of DoD, Department of Transportation (DOT), and the IC. One last endorsement from DHS remains, after which the MDA ESC will forward the plan to the NSC's MSIPC for full Federal interagency review and approval.

### **International Information Sharing Exercise**

During February 2014, NMIO and a small set of international partners participated in an Information Sharing Exercise that leveraged SILO/SeaPort to determine what can be shared and is discoverable among international partners. Prior to the exercise, NMIO worked closely with Liaison Officers to ensure familiarity with exercise parameters and to provide SILO/SeaPort navigation refresher training.



## **MISSION COLLABORATION**

### **National Security Council Staff Support**

In 2014, NMIO supported the NSC by directly contributing to the NSC's development of national policy through the PPD-1 IPC process, in areas such as maritime security; MDA; maritime intelligence integration; information sharing; Ebola vessel tracking; maritime piracy; Arctic domain awareness and security; and Illegal, Unregulated, Unreported Fishing (IUUF). NMIO continued to support the NSC's Joint Transborder/Maritime Security IPC's implementation plan actions under the NSAR. In one such action, NMIO, in conjunction with ODNI NIM-WH, led an Arctic TTX to determine intelligence gaps in the Arctic region.

Under the authority of the Information Sharing and Assurance IPC, and in coordination with Program Manager-Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE) and the DoD Executive Agent (EA) for MDA, NMIO led an information sharing exercise in support of National Strategy for Information Sharing and Safeguarding Priority Objectives by developing a notional maritime terrorist event in the Detroit River. Participants included representatives from the Michigan State Police, Michigan Intelligence Operations Center, Detroit Customs and Border Protection, Maryland Natural Resources Police, U.S. Coast Guard, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Federal Aviation Administration, Department of State, NORAD/USNORTHCOM, and DHS' Global Maritime Coordination Center for Maritime Operational Threat Response (MOTR) support. The exercise validated the National MDA Architecture attributes used for access control that were adopted from DHS' Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) and National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) – Maritime Domain exchanges. It also highlighted the need for information professionals to work closely with operators in the development of information sharing standards.

### **NMIO Technical Bulletin**

In 2014 NMIO's Technical Bulletin continued to leverage SMEs from across the globe to openly discuss emerging technologies that may pose a threat to the maritime commons or provide solutions to such threats. Volume #6 included articles from Australia, New Zealand, and the U.S. covering fields as diverse as mine warfare, ocean-based energy extraction, and atom-based gravimeters and inertial sensors. Volume #7 detailed emerging technologies identified and assessed by the Naval Postgraduate School including electro-optical sensors, meta-material imaging, and big data analytics in maritime security applications. Volume #8 focused on efforts to standardize data, increase data sharing, and improve interoperability from international, national, and local perspectives.

### **Single Integrated Look-Out (SILO) List**

SILO is a web-based, cross-domain merchant vessel database that allows the IC, Law Enforcement (LE), operational command centers and forces, and foreign partners to share intelligence on VOIs and persons of interest (POIs) in near real-time across multiple secure networks. Based on the user's validated access, SILO enables participating countries to conduct analytic discovery and intelligence sharing in near real-time between disparate stakeholders worldwide operating on different networks.



## **INVESTMENTS**

### **Port Security Enterprise Information Sharing Pilot Project**

The establishment of a Domestic Common Maritime Picture (DCMP) is a collaborative goal between NMIO, PM-ISE, DHS S&T, USCG and DoD. In 2014, NMIO led the effort to technically fuse data streams from various partners in order to prepare for an operational evaluation in 2015 to determine “value added metrics.” The success of the Port of Baltimore initiative<sup>3</sup> paved the way for a new study to determine maritime information sharing requirements among the port partners of Puget Sound, Washington. The Maritime Operational Information Sharing Analysis (MOISA) project is a collaborative effort among NMIO, PM-ISE, DHS S&T, and the USCG. These partners jointly funded the University of Washington (UW) Applied Physics Laboratory to work with the USCG Captain of the Port and Commanding Officer, Sector Puget Sound, to determine port partner information sharing requirements in order to establish common data standards for vessel-tracking data from multiple sources across Federal interagency, state, and local authorities. The goal is to develop maritime information sharing models that can be replicated across the major ports of the U.S. to improve port security through effective information sharing.

### **Maritime Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative (MSI)**

The MSI was a multifaceted training strategy and partnership between NMIO and the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI), in collaboration with DHS, USCG, and the FBI to improve the ability of maritime stakeholders to identify, report, evaluate, and share pre-incident terrorism indicators. More than 500 Federal, state, local, and private sector individuals completed the Maritime SAR training within six months of it being posted online. This two-year initiative concluded in November 2014 with the “Maritime Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative (MSI) Final Findings and Recommendations Report” and transition of the initiative to USCG’s Facilities and Compliance Office. Many of the final report’s recommendations were endorsed in a resolution put forward by a National Maritime Security Advisory Committee working group as a call to action for the USCG to address the recommendations contained within.

### **Maritime Analyst Training Course (MATC)**

In May 2014, NMIO held final MATC iterations in Massachusetts and Florida. The objective was to expand local authority and state fusion center analyst awareness and knowledge base of the maritime industry and port operations to better identify illicit activity. In December 2014, DHS’ Partner Engagement Office requested to work with NMIO in 2015 to adapt MATC for state fusion center analyst computer aided training.

## **PARTNER ENGAGEMENT**

### **ODNI Partner Engagement (PE) Private Sector Working Group**

To further synchronize efforts with ODNI/PE, NMIO participated in its inaugural and subsequent Private Sector Working Group sessions in 2014 to better coordinate outreach to the maritime private sector and improve dialogue.

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<sup>3</sup>In 2013, NMIO partnered with the port partners in Port of Baltimore and the Chesapeake Bay, led by the USCG Captain of the Port and Commanding Officer, Sector Baltimore, to establish common data standards to fuse vessel-tracking data from multiple Federal interagency, state, and local sources.

## Conclusion

2014 was another year of notable firsts for NMIO as we continued to mature our role as an ex-officio NIM. The ODNI's promulgation of the IIPM led to the launch of the MISB which then collectively leveraged the IC to quickly develop a Hard Target Strategy that will address the most serious maritime threats, while also beginning development of a process to create anticipatory maritime intelligence. Further, we advanced the draft NMDAAP to align national MDA architecture and increased our support of Arctic issues, all the while expanding our outreach activities through the NIAG that included engagement of whole of nation stakeholders and foreign partners to achieve better unity of effort. Lastly, NMIO led a whole of government effort to update and unify the processes by which we notify U.S. mariners regarding AWN. These hard won achievements portend even greater contributions by NMIO in the coming year.





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